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Senate

(Legislative day of Thursday, May 9, 2002)

The Senate met at 10 a.m., on the expiration of the recess, and was called to order by the Honorable HARRY REID, a Senator from the State of Nevada.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Lloyd John Ogilvie, offered the following prayer:

Gracious God, as we prepare for this weekend of Mother's Day, we praise You for our own mothers and the love and care we received from them, and for all the mothers of our Nation for the influence they have in shaping the character of children. We would agree with John Ruskin when he said that the history of a nation is not to be read in its battlefields but in its homes. Thank You for mothers who know You and communicate their faith and moral values to their children. Strengthen the mothers of this land now in this time when children are faced with an unprecedented deprecation of integrity, honesty, and character. Help mothers to be the kind of people they long for their children to become. As children grow into young adults, may their mothers be their best friends and confidants in the quest for confident living. Give us all a renewed appreciation for aging mothers who need a special assurance that they did their best and are appreciated. And for those mothers who have graduated to the next stage of eternal life in heaven with You, may they be remembered with grateful bouquets in our minds and hearts.

Dear God, we pause in the work of this Senate to salute the heroines of hope who are our mothers here or in heaven. Through our Lord and Saviour. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable HARRY REID led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Repub-

lic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. CANTWELL). The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. BYRD).

The legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, May 10, 2002.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable MARIA CANTWELL, a Senator from the State of Washington, to perform the duties of the Chair.

ROBERT C. BYRD, President pro tempore.

Ms. CANTWELL thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, leadership time is reserved.

MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, there will now be a period for the transaction of morning business not to extend beyond the hour of 11 a.m., with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each, and with the time equally divided between the majority leader and the Republican leader.

RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Nevada is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Madam President, this morning the Senate will be in a period of morning business until 11 a.m. At 11 a.m., we will resume consideration of the trade bill. There will be no rollcall votes today. The next rollcall vote will occur on Monday evening 6 p.m. to deal with probably the approval of the 57th judge, under the direction of Senator LEAHY—an Executive Calendar nomination. Two hours are set aside to debate that nomination Monday evening.

We hope that at 11 o'clock Senators will come and continue work on the trade bill. We have all learned from our constituents and others how important they believe this is, and we hope we can complete this legislation next week.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. GREGG. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

RECENT EVENTS IN ISRAEL

Mr. GREGG. Madam President, I want to speak on a couple of subjects this morning. First is what is happening in Israel.

Obviously, it is good news that at the Church of the Nativity, which is a shrine of significant importance to all of us who are Christian—obviously, it being the birthplace of Christ—that there has been a settlement. This is a step in the right direction. It is something we can take relief in because, clearly, the church itself was in physical risk, as were the people inside and outside of the church. It would have been a terrible tragedy in this conflict

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

